

**REMARKS**

Entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the application identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.111 and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

At the outset, Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 1, 3-9 and 11-16 are allowed (Official Action at page 3).

By the above amendments, claims 2 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

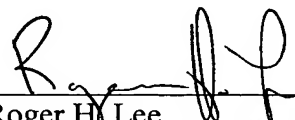
Only allowed claims 1, 3-9 and 11-16 are now pending in the present application. As such, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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By:   
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Roger H. Lee  
Registration No. 46,317

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620